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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 28 Oct. 1949

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and Tank Armor

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1. The following information and specifications are reported concerning the Soviet jet fighter YAK-15, which is a development of the YAK-3.
 - a. Engine: Junkers Jumo 004/H-4/ with a static power of 1800 kg. These engines are being manufactured in the USSR.
 - b. Fuselage: a construction of steel tubing, the wings reinforced by metal beams and wood supports. Both fuselage and wings are covered with plywood. The elevator and rudder section is entirely of wood construction.
 - c. Dimensions:
 - wing span - 9.45 meters
 - length - 9.18 meters
 - d. Weapons:
 - one 20mm. cannon SHVAK - firing rate of 600-800 per minute
 - two 12.7 mm machine guns, Beresina type - firing rate 800-1000 per minute.
 - e. Armor:
 - 7 mm plate back of cockpit
 - 4 mm side walls of cockpit
 - heavy plate covering area behind pilot's head and neck
 - no armor forward or under area of cockpit
 - f. Performance figures:
 - maximum ceiling - about 13,000 meters
 - maximum range - about 600 km.
 - cruising speed - about 780 km. per hour

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2. Six of these planes were stationed at the Polish airfield of Torun for a 2 to 3 week period. As reported by the Soviet pilots, the Soviet jets were crashing very frequently prior to September 1948. Since September 1948, the accident rate has steadily decreased, possibly as a result of the use of more German specialists in the training exercises. Numerous flights of the YAK-15 have been observed in the Torun area.
3. The following information and specifications are reported concerning two MIG fighter aircraft currently being produced in the USSR.
 - a. MIG-9 is a jet fighter plane of mid-wing design with two Chelomei engines, each of 1,800 kg. static thrust, mounted side by side. This aircraft has the following specifications: wing span, 12.85 m.; length 11.65 m; armament, one 37 mm gun and two 20 mm cannon. Its maximum speed is 1,000 km. per hour.
 - b. MIG single engine fighter has one Chelomei engine of 2,700 kg. power. It is a plane of high wing design with wing span of 10.6 m and length of 9.25 m.
4. The following models and characteristics of Soviet aircraft are reported.
 - a. Strategic planes: Tupolev-4 and Jumo-4H
range : 5,000 km.
speed : 500 km. per hour
characteristics: 4 turbine motors
 - b. Bombardier-transport: Autopropul
weight: 100 tons
range : 4,000 km.
 - c. Jet pursuit planes:
YAK-15 : speed - 850 km. per hour
MIK-R-1: speed - 900 km. per hour
5. Soviet flyers are reportedly being trained to operate the following two types of jet aircraft.
 - a. A plane with two turbo-jets mounted under the wings, which are swept back; a high tail assembly; a two-wheeled retractable landing gear; armament consisting of two heavy 12.7 mm. machine guns and one cannon mounted in the nose; a speed of approximately 900 km. per hour. The plane has a snout-like glass (sic) cockpit cupola. It is reported to have a good climbing capacity.
 - b. A single jet plane, manufactured in Kuibyshev and Tbilisi: 6 m. (sic) long, 10 m. wing spread, jet 60 cm. in diameter mounted on under side of the fuselage. Armament is the same as the above (para 5a). This plane is reported to have a speed of 1,000 km. per hour, and can exceed this speed with auxiliary BMW rocket attachments.
6. Approximately 18,500 "Goliath" explosives carriers are being produced annually at Kharkov. This carrier is a wheeled vehicle which is intended in wartime to be loaded with explosives and to be directed against enemy positions by remote control.
7. Buffer springs are being manufactured at Chelyabinsk to support sets of outer armor plating on Soviet tanks. These 25 mm. springs are supposed to connect the 16 cm. armored hull of a certain type tank with an outer set of armor plating 14 mm. thick.*

25X1A * [REDACTED] the information in paragraph 7 to be of a doubtful nature.

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